

1—Admiral Sir William Pakenham, commander in chief of British naval forces in North America, now visiting in Washington. 2—Armenian float which won first prize in the Rutin day pageant at Fresno, Cal. 3—General Pershing buying candy at National Capital horse show, held for the benefit of Salvation Army campaign.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Freight Rate Cut Which Will Save People \$400,000,000 a Year Is Ordered.

SHOULD REVIVE BUSINESS

No Let-Up in Attack on Attorney General Daugherty—Bankers Meet in Paris to Solve International Loan Problem—Communist Outbreak in Bulgaria.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

FOR some time President Harding has been striving to bring about a general agreement by the railroads of the country to reduce freight rates materially and voluntarily, accepting the opinion of many experts that lower rates are essential to the recovery of business in the United States. He called a number of railway executives to a conference in the White House and laid the case before them, and they named a committee of their membership to co-operate with the interstate commerce commission in attempting to realize the President's wishes. This looked promising until Mr. Harding a few days later admitted that the railway chiefs had so clearly presented to him the difficulties of the situation that he was not very sanguine of success.

Then the interstate commerce commission by itself came to the rescue and on Wednesday announced a decision in accordance with which rates on nearly all classes and commodities of traffic will be reduced on July 1 by amounts equal to 10 per cent of their present levels. The chief commodities excluded from the reduction are agricultural products in all sections outside of New England, live stock and western grain and grain products. The order reaffirms the reduction of 10.5 per cent in the western hay and grain rates last fall and the cut of 10 per cent made voluntarily by the roads on agricultural products, January 1.

According to the estimates of experts, the reductions mean a saving of approximately \$400,000,000 a year in the rail transportation bills of the American people. The farmers alone, they say, will benefit to the extent of some \$127,000,000 a year on goods that they buy normally. The cut is expected to increase buying and thus stimulate industry and diminish unemployment. On this there is general agreement among manufacturers, merchandisers and bankers.

Many of the rail executives were not only surprised by the commission's decision, but also quite disgruntled, holding that the reduction should have been postponed until the roads had accumulated more funds through increased earnings. Others, however, admitted that the loss in freight revenue probably would be more than offset by increase in traffic.

The interstate commerce commission included in its decision the determination of 5.75 per cent as the reasonable annual return for carriers on their capital investment, as compared with the 6 per cent level previously fixed. The new figure really amounts to 6 per cent, since the federal corporation income taxes are subtracted from earnings before profits are figured.

Another part of President Harding's plan was a voluntary acceptance of a reduction of wages by the railway brotherhoods. At present there is little prospect of this, but the railway labor board is expected to make a decision soon on wage questions that have been pending before it, the finding to be based solely on evidence presented in the hearings. It is estimated by the bureau of railway economics that railway labor board orders to date are saving the roads \$300,000,000 a year in reduced wages, so much of the freight reduction seems already to have been unloaded.

ATTORNEY GENERAL DAUGHERTY'S course in relation to war contract frauds and his alleged connection with the securing of Charles W. Morse's release from the Atlanta penitentiary continue to supply the "warmest" of the news from Washington. Senator Caraway of Arkansas is the most persistent of those attacking Daugherty, and the latter made the assertion that the senator was actuated to throw a screen about men guilty of war frauds. To this Caraway responded with a challenge to the attorney general during him to bring about a congressional investigation to determine the truth of his charges. Said the Arkansasian: "I defy Daugherty to ask the senate to pass a resolution for an investigation. If he does not do it, he stands convicted before the public as the man who has entered into a corrupt agreement to defraud the government, although he is the attorney general; and if his party will not let him be investigated his party must take the responsibility for not doing it. He said certain things were true. I say when he said it that he uttered a willful and malicious falsehood."

THE house has not yet acted on the resolution providing for a congressional investigation of war fraud charges, which was introduced by Representative Woodruff of Michigan. Senator Norris of Nebraska was quoted as saying that if the house did not speedily pass this resolution, a similar one would be introduced in the senate from the Republican side. Altogether, the situation of the attorney general is decidedly uncomfortable.

TOM WATSON, the eccentric senator from Georgia, had one of his "spells" last week and tried his best to get into a fist fight with Senator Phipps of Colorado. Watson was angry over Phipps' action in regard to certain Georgia postoffice nominations and during a session of the senate he began a furious verbal attack on the Coloradoan. They then went outside the main doorway and Watson roundly cursed Phipps, shouting: "If you will come down off that step, I'll knock your face in with my fist." Phipps, declining the challenge to combat, called a sergeant-at-arms, and the raging Watson was led away by Senator McNary.

NOTHING doing yet in the matter of a senate bill for soldiers' bonus. The Republican members of the finance committee last week found themselves evenly divided between Smoot's plan for paid-up insurance policies and McCumber's plan for certificates on which the service men could borrow. It was thought for a time that President Harding might express a preference, but he evidently was determined the senators should extricate themselves as best they might. Then the Republicans decided to call in the Democratic members of the committee to aid in drafting a bill. It was said the Democrats rather favored the McCumber plan.

THERE was a prospect last week that the German reparations crisis, due on May 31, would be averted. The allied reparations commission was considering offering Germany indefinite postponement of the ultimatum date on condition that she accept essentially the commission's full program. Such an arrangement was thought to be advisable in order to give time to the international bankers' committee, which met Thursday in Paris. Four solutions of the international loan problem were presented to the bankers at their opening session. J. P. Morgan submitted what he termed the American plan, and the others were offered by Sir Robert Kindersley, one of the governors of the Bank of England; Charles Sargent, former French undersecretary of finance and president of the Banque de l'Union Parisienne; and Dr. G. Vissering, president of the Netherlands bank. The sessions were private and the public was not given any hint of what the plans were. However, it was understood to be the opinion of the financiers that if any loan to Germany were arranged, it must be very large, probably at least a billion dollars. It also seemed likely that it would be necessary, in that case, for Belgium to surrender partially her priority on German reparations, for Great Britain to

reduce her proportion of 22 per cent of the reparations, and for France to cut down her expectations of cash payments.

PREMIER STAMBOULISKY of Bulgaria had some private conferences with M. Tchitcherine of Russia when they were at Genoa, and the result appears to be that the Bulgarian government, formerly the declared opponent of bolshevism, has changed front and will line up with the soviet republic and make its international policies conform to those of Russia, Germany and Turkey. This will not only present a solid combination against the allies and the little entente, but also will have its effect on the Thracian question, for the Bulgars have always sided with the Turks against the Greeks there.

The Bulgarian communists started some kind of an uprising a few days ago and at first it was reported they had seized the government and that King Boris was a fugitive. This was false, and it appeared the row was mainly an attempt by the communists to force the removal of Wrangel's anti-bolshevik Russians from the country. The rebels really did begin a march on Sofia, but the army remained loyal and drove them off.

CHARLES R. CRANE of Chicago, former American minister to China, is a great traveler but he is not likely for some time to visit France or any French possessions. Word has come from Syria that a French military court in Damascus, after a hearing by default, has found Mr. Crane guilty of inciting the recent uprising in the French mandate and sentenced him to twenty years in prison. A woman Moslem teacher who was involved in the outbreak was one of those selected by Mr. Crane to receive educational benefit in the United States. He gave her his check for \$1,000 for traveling expenses and this gave rise to the charge that the American government was subsidizing the rebels.

MICHAEL COLLINS, head of the Irish Free State provisional government, and De Valera have signed a compact regarding the coming elections, and the latter seems to have got the best of it. The agreement virtually will result in the re-election of the present membership of the Dail Eireann, so that the De Valera republicans will again have nearly half the seats notwithstanding the fact that they represent less than 20 per cent of the electorate. The British government is much exercised by the status of affairs, realizing that the treaty is in danger.

Whatever condition of temporary peace may obtain in southern Ireland, the warfare between that part of the island and Ulster has acquired new vigor, due to the outrages perpetrated by Sinn Feiners. Among these was the murder of a member of the Ulster parliament. This so enraged the Belfast government that 300 Sinn Fein leaders—all that could be caught in the Ulster counties—were seized in surprise raids and thrown into prison. Premier Craig told parliament forcible action was demanded, and he issued a regulation declaring that membership in the republican army was an offense in itself. His energetic measures did not stop the operations of the bombers and snipers.

AT LEAST one interesting fight may be expected at every convention of the American Medical association. In last week's sessions of the organization in St. Louis the contest arose over the practice of "group medicine" or clinics. The committee on amendments to the constitution proposed new sections declaring against this practice, which, however, cannot be acted on for one year. Immediately afterward announcement was made of the organization of the Association of Group Clinics of North America, an independent medical association.

ANOTHER step toward the consummation of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence waterway project has been taken by the government. An announcement by the State department says it has informed Canada "that the United States government would be glad to take up with the Canadian government the negotiation of a treaty looking to the deepening of the waterways which would enable ocean-going ships to reach the Great Lakes."

IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By REV. P. E. FITZWATER, D. D., Teacher of English Bible in the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.)
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LESSON FOR JUNE 4

JEHOIAKIM TRIES TO DESTROY GOD'S WORD

LESSON TEXT—Jeremiah 36.
GOLDEN TEXT—The Word of our God shall stand forever.—Isa. 40:8.
REFERENCE MATERIAL—Isa. 55:8-11; Matt. 6:17-19.
PRIMARY TOPIC—The Burning of a Good Book.
JUNIOR TOPIC—Jehoiakim Burns the Prophet's Book.
INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC—A King Who Scorned God's Word.
YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC—How to Meet the Forces Antagonistic to God's Word.

I. The Book Being Written (vv. 1-4).

1. The Time of (v. 1). In the fourth year of Jehoiakim, Jeremiah had been exercising the prophetic ministry some thirty years.

2. Against Whom Spoken (v. 2). They were directed against Israel, Judah and all the nations.

3. The Purpose of (v. 3). The grand object of the Lord in sending this message by the prophet was Judah's repentance.

4. Method of (v. 4). Jeremiah dictated the words of the Lord to Baruch the Scribe, who wrote them upon a roll of a book.

II. The Book Being Read (vv. 5-21). Jeremiah was unable to speak the message of the Lord to the people, as he was "shut up" (v. 5). "Shut up" most likely means a royal ban against Jeremiah's proclamation of God's Word to the people or against his entering the temple.

1. To the People (vv. 6-10). The occasion which brought the people together was a day of fasting (v. 6), because of the threatening of the Babylonians. Jeremiah directed Baruch to read to the people the words of the Lord which he had dictated to him, with the hope that the people would present their supplication before the Lord and return every one from his evil way.

2. To the Princes (vv. 11-19). While the reading of the book unto the people seemingly created no great impression, yet Michaias was so deeply moved that he went to the scribe's chamber where the princes were assembled and declared unto them all the words which he had heard Baruch read. The princes sent for Baruch to come and bring the roll with them. Baruch came and read to them with the result that (1) they were aroused with fear (v. 16). (2) They inquired as to how he had written the words (vv. 17, 18). To this he replied that he had written in the book the words which Jeremiah had dictated to him. (3) Their concern for the safety of Jeremiah and Baruch (v. 19). They were instructed to hide themselves from man's sight.

3. To the King (vv. 20, 21). The princes regarded the words of the Lord to be of such importance that they should be read in the hearing of the king, for he was mainly involved in the judgments pronounced. Upon their report of the matter to the king, he had Jehudi bring the roll and read it to him in the presence of the princes.

III. The King Destroying the Roll (vv. 22-26). Instead of becoming penitent and afraid he became enraged and cut the roll leaf by leaf and threw it into the fire until it was consumed. This he did against the intercession of some of the princes. When the roll was destroyed he ordered Jeremiah and Baruch arrested.

IV. The Roll Rewritten (vv. 27-32). The burnt roll was reproduced by the command of the Lord, and many like words were added unto them. We should learn from this incident—

1. The Indestructibility of God's Word. Men may cut it to pieces and burn it, but the Word of God shall stand forever. It comes to light again with words added to be visited upon its would-be destroyers.

2. The reason men attempt to destroy God's Word, it is because of the authoritative rebuke of their sins. The Bible arraigns man for his pride and wickedness and asserts God's sovereign power over man and his demand for a personal surrender unto Him and worship of Him.

3. The Method of Attempted Destruction of God's Word. It was part by part. "When Jehudi had read three or four leaves he cut it with a penknife." The rationalist today cuts out the biblical conception of God as a being whose essential nature demands punishment of sin; therefore he cuts out the Bible doctrine of man as created of God in His likeness and image. Instead of that he makes man a product of evolution; therefore he explains away the fall of man.

The Route to Heaven. Show me the man who would go to heaven alone, and I will show you one who will never be admitted there.—Fettham.

Be Satisfied. Rest satisfied with doing well, and leave others to talk of you as they please.—Pythagoras.

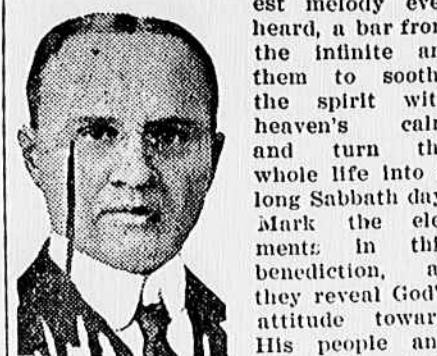
Dampness of Error. There is nothing so true that the dampness of error has not warped it.—Tupper

Jehovah's Blessing

By REV. GEORGE E. GUILLE
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TEXT—The Lord bless thee, and keep thee: The Lord make His face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.—Numbers 6:24-26.

The music of heaven rings in these words! Three measures of the divinest melody ever heard, a bar from the infinite anthem to soothe the spirit with heaven's calm and turn the whole life into a long Sabbath day. Mark the elements in this benediction, as they reveal God's attitude toward His people and tell of His activities on their behalf.



1. "Jehovah bless thee." You cannot explain that word, "bless." It breathes itself into the soul like a rare perfume, but you cannot tell what it is. It touches the weary life like a tender mother's hand and lifts it up into rest and strength. You know by sweet experience what it is, but you cannot define it. It is the heart of God disclosed. It embraces all other elements found in this benediction; the keeping, the shining face, the graciousness, the uplifted countenance, the gift of peace. That is His blessing. Who that has beheld the cross—has seen the Well-Beloved hanging there, can question what that great heart holds for him? "He that spared not his own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him freely give us all things?" Oh, let us magnify that word, "bless."

2. "Jehovah make His face shine upon thee." If His blessing reveals His heart, this discovers His nearness. Not afar off, but nigh. Do not think of Him as far away in heaven, veiled away in His own eternity, unknown and unknowable. There is no distance. "Ye who sometime were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ." In that place of nearness, His face shines. What joy to know that the face from which heaven and earth shall flee away and that is against them that do evil, is shining upon those in whose midst He dwells.

3. "Jehovah lift up His countenance upon thee." Frequently have the Lord's people been heard to say that He has hidden His face from them. It cannot be! For He who looks upon His beloved Son with unchanging delight sees you and me ever in Him and cannot turn away from us. If there be hiding, it is you who are doing it, not He. The clouds that obscure the sun do not come from the sun.

4. The Lord be gracious unto thee. This attitude explains all else. His grace is His kindness to the undeserving. Grace is not a frame of mind or a state of soul, but the attitude of God. "By grace are ye saved" and over and over again, because we are so slow to believe it and because He desires we should do so, comes the salutation: "Grace be unto you."

But not only in His attitude but in His activities on our behalf do we see how all His heart is occupied for us.

1. Jehovah keep thee. This is our assurance and our security that He who is gracious keeps us for His own. "Kept by the power of God." "Jehovah is thy keeper," says the Psalmist, and they are safe indeed whom He keeps. But not alone as His own possession. He will keep that life in all its daily affairs as though you were His only child and His solitary care. "Jehovah keep thee." That implies what Scripture elsewhere emphasizes and what every hour of our experience has proved: that you cannot keep yourself. "I am not being put to shame," says the apostle, "for . . . he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him." Not my soul only, but my daily life. O soul, if He is not keeping thee, thou art being put to shame. Every manifestation of the flesh puts you to shame. Every impatient word, every unworthy deed puts you to shame. He can keep you and He will if you but give Him a chance. Turn that life over to Him and see what He can make out of it, see how He can keep it in holy triumph and joy.

2. The next element—last sweet, lingering strain of the anthem—is peace. "Jehovah give thee peace." In all the wide universe, in all the tongues that men have spoken, there is no greater word. First salutation of the risen Christ, "Peace be unto you;" last thing in His valedictory: "Peace I leave with you." "He is our peace." O soul, anxious, careworn, tossed and driven, fold this blessing of God to thy poor heart. His own peace is for your present possession. He desires you to have it.

Have you seen the full significance of this blessing? The divine name occurs three times, and three is the number of the God-head, sun of all divine fullness. The connection of the three persons with the three parts of the blessing can be easily traced. All that God is is thus engaged for us: Father, Son and Holy Spirit occupied with us and for us, and all that we may be blessed. Oh, who would live in unbelief? Who would be so miserable? Give me this blessing of God and I am rich indeed. My heaven has begun with its holiness and its joy!

Stop That Backache!

Those agonizing twinges, that dull throbbing backache, may be warning of serious kidney weakness. Science is neglected, for it might lead to Gravel, Dropsy or Bright's Disease. If you are suffering with a bad back, look for other proof of kidney trouble. There are dizzy spells, headaches, a tired feeling and disordered kidney action, get after the cause. Help your weakened kidneys with Doan's Kidney Pills. Doan's have helped thousands and should help you. Ask your neighbor!

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On Naming Babies. A law was passed recently in Norway prohibiting the bestowal of ridiculous names on babies. Also no French child may be given a name that does not occur in the official list drawn up for the purpose, comprising 13,000 items.

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